



CHAT WITH THE CHAIR

FEBRUARY 2013

Dear Friends,

The new year has been full of discussion about Milwaukee County Government reform. Today we launched the OUR Milwaukee County initiative which will be a data drive,, local, public discussion of county wide reforms. Details of the plan are linked in this enewsletter. At yesterday's County Board Meeting, we made significant progress towards improving our mental health services. The County Board also voted to a critical step forward on developing the Downtown Transit Center and creating jobs.

I hope to see you at one of the many events happening in our neighborhood this month. From the Winter Blast in Bay View to workshops offered in Silver City, or at the new exhibit at our Milwaukee Art Museum, I hope we cross paths very soon!

I invite you to [watch our meetings online here.](#)

Marina D.

Chairwoman Marina Dimitrijevic

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Milwaukee County News Updates

OUR Milwaukee County Reform Plan

County Board Recognizes Lt. Murphy

Board Moves Toward Jobs, Economic Development at Downtown Transit Center Site

Dare to be Aware Health Fair at the Domes

Progress in Mental Health

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New Bay View Dog Park Proposed

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Slice of Ice at Red Arrow Park

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Milwaukee County News Updates

OUR Milwaukee County Reform Plan

County Board Chairwoman Marina Dimitrijevic and Supervisors announced the launch of “OUR Milwaukee County,” a local government reform initiative, at the MLK Community Center, located at 1531 W. Vliet St., in Milwaukee.

The word “OUR” of OUR Milwaukee County stands for “Outreach for Unified Reform.” The goals are to discuss reform of Milwaukee County government and to create dialogue and listening sessions, inviting everyone whose daily lives are touched by Milwaukee County government.

“We are delivering on the promise of government reform discussion that is local and inclusive,” said Chairwoman Dimitrijevic. “We are eager to listen to our constituents – people who live throughout Milwaukee County – to hear their ideas for efficiency and effectiveness. It’s time to think big.”

The initiative, which proposes a consistent agenda designed to spark discussion and debate, is set to include a series of town hall meetings in all 18 Supervisory districts throughout the months of February and March as well as a nighttime public hearing in March.

The areas for discussion as outlined in the proposed agenda include: County Governance, Services Consolidation, Funding Sources and Mental Health.

In sharp contrast to the reform plans floated to-date by a select few, the OUR Milwaukee initiative will involve the active participation of local, community partners, such as religious groups, business leaders, members of African-American and Hispanic organizations, health care advocates and others.

“I’m proud that District 10 is hosting the kick-off of the OUR Milwaukee County initiative to illustrate the importance of having public discussions with the diverse people of Milwaukee County in their own neighborhoods – not behind closed doors and not in Madison,” said Supervisor David Bowen.

“This initiative also focuses on evidence-based public discussion, not arbitrary numbers.” Additionally, a key element of the initiative is the request and receipt of an independent audit of county governance overall; the

scope of the independent review will be monitored by the office of the elected Milwaukee County Comptroller to ensure the use of independent auditing standards.

To learn more of the plan, please click [here](#) to see an outline.

Lt. Murphy Recognized



Above: Chairwoman Dimitrijevic, Lt. Murphy and Supervisor Taylor honoring recognizing Lt. Murphy for his heroic actions.

This month at the February meeting of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors, Lt. Murphy of the Oak Creek Police Department was recognized for his heroic actions at the Sikh Temple shooting in Oak Creek.

Milwaukee County News Updates

Downtown Transit Center Update

BOARD MOVES TOWARD JOBS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AT DOWNTOWN TRANSIT CENTER SITE

The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors has worked through the stalled progress of “The Couture” at the current site of the Downtown Transit Center. At the Thursday February 7, meeting of the County Board of Supervisors, the Board approves a resolution that allows Milwaukee County to pursue a clear land title, a critical step in the negotiations and development process.

“Our interest is -- and always has been – forward-motion with respect to the land, the public and economic development,” said Supervisor Patricia Jursik, Chair of the Committee on Economic and Community Development.

“This step will still allow for a fair hearing with regard to the public trust issue.”

The Department of Natural Resources has determined that the site in question is not subject to the public trust doctrine. To affirm that determination, the Board is seeking a legal ruling in the matter so that negotiations with the developer, Barrett Visionary Development, can proceed.

“This Board is being proactive with development, and we look forward to this project’s ultimate success,” explained Supervisor Mark Borkowski, Chair of the Committee on Judiciary, Safety and General Services.

Mental Health Progress

At the February meeting of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors, the Board made progress towards reforming how we deliver mental health in Milwaukee County.

To view a copy of the resolution establishing the framework for this reform, please click [here](#).

Dare to be Aware

We are staging our annual "Dare to be Aware" Health Fair at the Domes on March 16 from 9-5 pm. Share the day with over 50 specialists in health and wellness, life coaching and personal growth programs, natural healing, herbs, organic items, animal communicators, sound healers, psychic readings, and so much more. Learn more about lifestyle decisions that enhance your health by attending any of our 12 FREE presentations.



Milwaukee County News Updates

New Bay View Dog Park Proposed

In January, our Alderman, Tony Zielinski presented a proposal to create a new dog park in our district. Here is some information about the proposed park:

- The space is approximately 3/4 of an acre in size, located near Bay Street and Lincoln Avenue
- There is no current projected exact timeline for the project; shall be confirmed when a dedicated funding source is secured/identified
- The space would always remain the property of the City of Milwaukee
- The space will be fenced in; an unknown funding source will provide the fencing
- The City of Milwaukee will be responsible for all maintenance (turf, seeding, plowing, clean-up etc.)
- Milwaukee County would handle the permitting for the park, and collect all permitting revenues
- Milwaukee County Park Rangers will patrol the park
- The park will bear Milwaukee County Parks signage, but will also display some marker indicating that it belongs to the City of Milwaukee
- This project is advocated by ROMP (Residents for Off-leash Milwaukee Parks) and Tony Zielinski

Chairwoman Recognized

2013 will mark the Council's 98th Annual Washington Birthday Banquet. This event is one of the longest continuously running events in the State of Wisconsin.

This year's banquet will be held on Monday, February 18th, at The Patio, 1421 East Howard Avenue. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m. followed by an address from guest speaker, Milwaukee County General Mitchell International Airport Director, Barry Bateman.

The 'Person of the Year' award will also be presented at the banquet. The Selection Committee has chosen Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Marina Dimitrijevic for her dedication, spirit, and contribution to the community.



In the District

LBWN Events

Start Your Own Business Workshop

Free workshop in Spanish provided by WWBIC
Wednesday, February 6 6:00pm-7:30pm
Sacred Heart Center, Rm. 203 Milwaukee, WI 53215
(entrance at 28th & Lapham)

LBWN is partnering with the Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation (WWBIC) to host a workshop for existing and potential small business owners in Spanish.

Whether you already own a business or are looking to start one, come to this free event to learn about loans, technical assistance and other resources that can help!

To RSVP or for any questions, please contact Natanael Martinez at natanael@lbwn.org or (414) 383-9038 x. 2511 or visit the WWBIC website.

Free Hip Hop Classes at Urban Ecology Center Above the Clouds' first neighborhood class

Every Wednesday (Starting 2/13)
4:30pm-5:15pm (ages 5-8)
5:30pm-6:30pm (ages 9-14)

Urban Ecology Center,
3700 W Pierce St
Milwaukee, WI 53215

Above the Clouds, a non-profit faith based organization with creative arts programming is expanding services into the neighborhoods of Layton Boulevard West. The Hip Hop Dance classes will expose children ages 5-14 to the creative arts/movement - free of charge - in a safe and loving atmosphere. Children participating in the class will practice movements while learning to move with a purpose, self-discipline and personal growth. Space is limited so enroll your kid today!

To submit an application form or for more information, contact Above the Clouds at AboveTheCloudsMilw@gmail.com, (414) 344-3019, or 510 E. Burleigh Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212.

New Youth Organization Opens in Silver City

Initial focus on tutoring and sports

On Tuesday, January 15th a new youth serving organization began operations at Ascension Lutheran Church, 1236 S. Layton Blvd. The Epic Center Community Organization (ECCO) was formed in 2012 by Mike Sengyothinh, an experienced youth worker who had grown up in the Silver City neighborhood. Mike's passion has always been working with youth and he sees ECCO as a vehicle for giving youth in the neighborhood positive outlets and influences in a structured and safe environment.

ECCO is beginning programming with basketball leagues and clinics, breakdancing classes, tutoring and homework help on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays starting this winter. ECCO will also be organizing adult basketball leagues on Saturdays. If you and your children are interested in participating in ECCO activities contact Mike at 414-517-5418. You can see a list of programs and times at this link. They hope to expand program offerings as the organization grows and gains more support. At the moment ECCO is staffed completely by volunteers, although they are looking for the support to hire paid staff and expand programming.

ECCO is a direct response to the Quality of Life Plans that were created for the Layton Boulevard West and Clarke Square neighborhoods as part of the Zilber Neighborhood Initiative. The Layton Boulevard West planning process in particular identified a lack of out-of-school activities for youth in the Silver City, Burnham Park, and Layton Park neighborhoods. In Clarke Square there are several excellent youth serving organizations, but the density of residents under the age of 18 is so high that there is demand for additional youth serving programs. ECCO hopes to compliment the youth service and program offerings already operating in the area and is working closely with Layton Boulevard West Neighbors, the Clarke Square Initiative, and Ascension Lutheran Church.

In the District



BVNA Annual Meeting

The BVNA Annual Meeting is where you can get a recap of the association's accomplishments in 2012, see where your sponsorship and membership dues were spent, and vote for new board members. Exercise your rights as a BVNA member and come and vote! Everyone is welcome no need to be a member.

Thursday, March 7th 6:30pm - 8:00 pm at Mercy Hill inside Hide House

Save the Date

Music Under Glass

Join us at the Milwaukee County Domes, in Mitchell Park, for the Music Under Glass Concert Series. Every Thursday in January from 6:30-9 pm.

Slice of Ice at Red Arrow Park

Winter is upon us, and with it comes winter sports. Be sure to stop at Red Arrow Park for some ice skating at the slice of ice!

Color Rush at Milwaukee Art Museum

Color Rush: 75 Years of Color Photography in America
February 22, 2013–May 19, 2013

Today color photography is so pervasive that it is hard to believe there was a time when this was not the case. This exhibition and catalogue explore the historical developments that led to color photography becoming the norm in popular culture and fine art.

This project charts—from magazine pages to gallery walls, from advertisements to photojournalism—the interconnected history of color photography in the United States from 1907 to 1981. Respectively, these years mark the introduction of the first commercially available color photographic process and the published survey that signified the widespread acceptance of contemporary art photography in color. In the intervening years, color photography captured the popular imagination through its visibility in magazines such as Life and Vogue, as well as through its accessibility on the marketplace thanks to companies such as Kodak.

With framed photographs, as well as publications, slide shows, and film clips, Color Rush: 75 Years of Color Photography in America promises to be a multi-faceted and engaging experience for general audiences and photography specialists alike.